

U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Marlene Norris

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO EMBEZZLING MONEY FROM EXCHANGE AT SELFRIDGE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE (ANGB)

A 51-year-old civilian Senior Store Associate at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base (ANGB) Exchange, pleaded guilty today to a one count Information charging her with Theft of Government Property, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Andrew Arena, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Pleading guilty before U.S. District Judge Gerald E. Rosen was Marlene Norris, a former employee of the Exchange, a retail store operating for the benefit of military personnel at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mount Clemens, Michigan. Theft of Government Property is a felony offense which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "Stealing from any federal facility, particularly a military base, is a serious matter. We will pursue such matters with vigor."

During the plea in Court, Norris acknowledged that she perpetrated the theft, totaling in excess of \$113,851, by submitting and redeeming false and fraudulent refund slips, utilizing names and identifications of others, including deceased persons. Norris then obtained cash for the return slips, which she converted to her own personal use. Her conduct occurred between October 2004 and October 2005.

Norris entered into a plea agreement with the government which estimated her guidelines to be 10 - 16 months imprisonment. The plea agreement provides that she will pay restitution to the government in the amount of \$113,059.32.

A sentencing date of July 27, 2007 has been scheduled by the Court.